GOP brass chastise Moore
They call for race exit; fifth woman levels teen sex-advances claim. – National, 4A

Focus: Arkansas originals
Museum exhibit includes items made over the years in all 75 counties. – Style, 1E

Arkansas Democrat Gazette
ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

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In the news

■ **Jerome Smith**, a Marine veteran, and his dog Jo-Jo, a service animal that helps Smith manage his post-traumatic stress disorder, got an apology after the pair were asked to leave a crowded bar in Grand Rapids, Mich., on the day before Veterans Day.

■ **Roslyn Corrigan** is the latest woman to openly accuse former President George H.W. Bush of inappropriately touching her, saying in an interview that when she was 16, Bush grabbed her buttocks as she posed for a photo with him in 2003 at a gathering of CIA officers north of Houston.

■ **Rand Paul**, the Republican senator from Kentucky, announced on Twitter his return to the Senate on Monday, 10 days after he was tackled by a neighbor while doing yardwork, leaving Paul with six broken ribs.

■ **Troy Stevenson**, executive director of Freedom Oklahoma, which advocates for people identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer, said someone fired bullets at the group's Oklahoma City office, shattering a reinforced glass panel and damaging four others.

■ **Terry Roak** of Chattanooga, Tenn., said two rodeo horses and a trailer stolen from a parking lot in McDonough, Ga., are in good condition after being found two days later when a person who had seen a news report about the theft spotted the trailer in a parking lot about 15 miles away.

■ **Easton Lowery**, 8, said he felt lucky he wasn't bitten but that he lost his "best friend" when an alligator grabbed his pet, Beignet, and dragged it underwater as Easton and his mother were throwing sticks to their dogs at a lake in Gainesville, Fla.

■ **Brandon Vicks**, 27, of Atlanta was jailed, accused of reckless conduct, when a gun Vicks was cleaning discharged, sending a round that ricocheted off the floor and struck his 7-year-old stepson in the hand and arm and his 10-year-old stepson above the right eye, police said.

■ **Allan Simmons**, 60, a star British Scrabble player, has been banned from competition for three years after the Association of British Scrabble Players determined that he broke tournament rules by not showing an empty hand before drawing new letter tiles.

■ **Will Powers** of Farmington Hills, Mich., said two of his cats that hold Guinness World Records, Arcturus for being the tallest domestic feline at 19 inches and Cygnus for having the longest tail at 17 inches, are both missing after a fire gutted his house.

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
Today Partly sunny.
High 62. Southeast winds 5 mph.
Tonight Partly cloudy in the evening; becoming mostly cloudy.
Low 50. South winds 5 mph.

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Quake aftermath

AP/Pouria Pakizeh

Survivors of a deadly earthquake that shook the Iran-Iraq border warm themselves in front of destroyed buildings in the city of Sarpol-e-Zahab on Monday in western Iran. *Article, 6A*

Trump presses for new course in tax debate

He calls on GOP to slash mandate in health care law

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

As Republican lawmakers worked toward a delicate compromise on a $1.5 trillion tax cut, President Donald Trump threw himself back into the discussion Monday, suggesting that Republicans could slash taxes even further by repealing the health care law's mandate that most people have health insurance.

After a long day of meetings in the Philippines, Trump took to Twitter to congratulate House and Senate Republicans for making progress on tax cut legislation during his 12-day trip through Asia. Then he pressed them to change course.

"Now, how about ending the unfair & highly unpopular Indiv Mandate in OCare & reducing taxes even further?" Trump said, referring to the health law's mandate that people purchase health insurance. "Cut top rate to 35% w/all of the rest going to middle income cuts?"

Trump's latest suggestions came as the Senate Finance Committee began debating the bill and considering amendments, a process that could continue all week.

There have been complaints from wealthy GOP donors that the Republican tax bills would not do enough to lower their taxes, though several studies have found that the wealthy would be major beneficiaries of both the House and Senate plans.

An analysis released Monday by Congress' nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation found that the Senate overhaul bill would increase taxes for some 13.8 million moderate-income American households.

Trump and the Republicans have promoted the legislation as a boon to the middle class, bringing tax relief to people with moderate incomes and boosting the economy to create new jobs.

"This bill is not a massive tax cut for the wealthy. ... This is not a big giveaway to corporations," Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, insisted as the panel had its first day of debate on the Senate measure.

Hatch also downplayed the analysis by congressional tax experts showing a tax increase for several million U.S. households under the Senate proposal. Hatch said "a relatively small minority of taxpayers could see a slight increase in their taxes."

The committee's senior Democrat, Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon, said the legislation has become "a massive handout to multinational corporations and a bonanza for tax cheats and powerful political donors."

The analysis found that the Senate measure would actually increase taxes in 2019 for 13.8 million house-

See **TAXES**, Page 3A

Trump praises relations with Philippines' Duterte

COMPILED BY
DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF
FROM WIRE REPORTS

MANILA — President Donald Trump said on Monday that he had a "great relationship" with President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines, making little mention of human rights at his first face-to-face meeting with a leader accused of carrying out a campaign of extrajudicial killings in his nation's war on drugs.

In a break from past practice by American presidents, who have pressed foreign leaders publicly and privately about allegations of human rights abuses, Trump instead pursued his own transactional style of diplomacy, dwelling mostly on areas of common ground during his meeting with Duterte. On the sideline of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit, Trump focused on fighting the Islamic State and illegal drugs as well as on trade issues, the White House said.

See **TRUMP**, Page 7A

First Orion to open NLR headquarters

Building, 300 workers set in Argenta

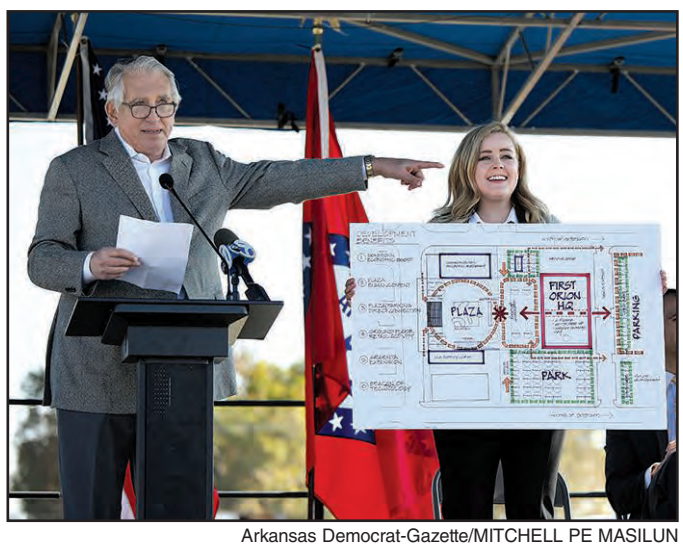
NOEL OMAN
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

First Orion, an Arkansas company that develops and sells software to help cellphone users identify and block unwanted calls, announced Monday that its new global headquarters will be in Argenta, the downtown neighborhood in North Little Rock.

The company's chief executive officer, Charles Morgan, said the location in the 500 block of Main Street and next to the planned $4 million Argenta Plaza will be its fifth and hopefully last location since the company was founded almost 10 years ago.

BUDGET PREVIEW a breeze in NLR. Page 1B.

See **ORION**, Page 5A



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/MITCHELL PE MASILUN

Charles Morgan, chief executive officer of First Orion, describes the design of the company's new headquarters at a news conference Monday in North Little Rock.

7.5% return retirement system goal

MICHAEL R. WICKLINE
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The Arkansas Teacher Retirement System's trustees voted Monday to implement several measures to raise money and cut costs over seven years in response to reducing the system's projected annual investment return from 8 percent to 7.5 percent a year.

Officials of the system actuary Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Co. of Southfield, Mich., urged the trustees to cut the system's annual projected investment return, saying the median projected return for public pension plans across the nation is now 7.5 percent a year. Cutting the projection is appropriate and conservative, but

See **TEACHER**, Page 3A

Somalis vote for president

AP/BARKHAD KAARIYE

A woman casts her vote in the presidential election in Hargeisa on Monday in Somalia's semiautonomous region of Somaliland.

Selling of wine put to judge

2 sides state their case on new law

LINDA SATTER
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Wine drinkers across Arkansas' 40 "wet" counties will be able to buy their favorite wine in grocery stores or convenience stores as early as Thursday, if a federal judge decides today to reject a request from area liquor store proprietors.

But if Chief U.S. District Judge Brian Miller sides with the liquor stores and decides to block the state Alcoholic Beverage Control board from issuing permits to grocery retailers until a new state law can be more closely examined, the grocery retailers won't know for months if they can someday expand their offerings beyond small-farm wines.

"I'd like to hit pause and weigh out these issues," John Crow, part-owner of 107 Liquor Inc. in Sherwood, testified at a three-hour preliminary-injunction hearing in Miller's court Monday.

Crow said there are several large chain grocery retailers, including Wal-Mart and Kroger, very near his business, which he bought into in 2005, and if the board issues grocery-store wine permits to them, "There's no doubt I will lose money."

He predicted that in the area surrounding his fam-

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